

Assembly Bill No. 1499

CHAPTER 414

An act to add Section 15655 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to human services.

[Approved by Governor September 16, 1999. Filed
with Secretary of State September 16, 1999.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1499, Lowenthal. Elder and dependent abuse reporting: training.

Existing law requires mandated reporters to report instances of abuse of elder or dependent adults.

This bill would specify that long-term health care facilities or community care facilities that provide care to adults shall provide training to their staff in recognizing and reporting elder and dependent adult abuse.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 15655 is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

15655. (a) (1) Each long-term health care facility, as defined in Section 1418 of the Health and Safety Code or community care facility, as defined in Section 1502 of the Health and Safety Code that provides care to adults shall provide training in recognizing and reporting elder and dependent adult abuse, as prescribed by the Department of Justice. The Department of Justice shall, in cooperation with the State Department of Health Services and the State Department of Social Services, develop a minimal core training program for use by these facilities. As part of that training, long-term care facilities, including nursing homes and out-of-home care facilities, shall provide to all staff being trained a written copy of the reporting requirements and a written notification of the staff's confidentiality rights as specified in Section 15633.

(2) Compliance with paragraph (1) shall be completed by January 1, 2001, or, if the facility begins operation after July 31, 2000, within six months of the date of the beginning of the operation of the facility. Employees hired after June 1, 2001, shall be trained within 60 days of their first day of employment.

(b) Each long-term health care facility, as defined in Section 1418 of the Health and Safety Code, shall be subject to review by the State Department of Health Services Licensing and Certification Unit for compliance with the duties imposed in subdivision (a).

(c) Each community care facility, as defined in Section 1502 of the Health and Safety Code shall be subject to review by the State Department of Social Services Community Care Licensing Unit for compliance with the duties imposed in subdivision (a).

